Health Survey in Andhra Pradesh

891. SHRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what arrangements have been made to conduct an health survey in the districts of Prakasam, Guntur and Krishna of Andhra Pradesh to know the health condition of handloom weavers there ; and

(b) what steps are being taken to improve the health condition of handloom weavers ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) and (b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh have informed that no special health survey has been conducted in the Districts of Prakasam, Guntur and Krishna. However, the District Medical and Health Officers of these Districts have been instructed to conduct medical camps in the concerned villages of these three Districts and render necessary medical aid and health care services wherever required.

Charges for Special Services

892. SHRI P. UPENDRA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to charge fees from patients at major hospitals in Delhi for special services ;

(b) if so, the justification thereof ; and

(c) whether Government are aware of the reaction from the general public in this respect ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) to (c) Major hospitals in Delhi charge fees for certain specialised investigations/procedures like CAT Scanning, EEG, TMT and Echo-cardiography etc. in order to compensate for the recurring and non-recurring cost of running the equipments. However, poor patients are granted partial or full exemption from payment of charges, depending upon merit of each case. The Government has not received any representation from public against charging of the above fees.

Improvement in General Health Condition of People

893. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what steps have recently been taken by Government to improve the general health conditions of the people ;

(b) the amount allocated for these schemes during the Eighth Five Year Plan ;

(c) whether Government have taken steps to promote heart surgery in all states so as to make it within the reach of the poorest of the poor ;

(d) whether it is a fact that a large number of AIDS Cases have been detected in India ;

(e) what steps Government propose to take to eradicate this disease on war footing ; and

(f) whether Government have initiated research for the immediate causes of AIDS in India ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) All schemes relating to Health and Family Welfare including the Centrally Sponsored Schemes and National Health Programmes are being implemented throughout the country to improve general health condition of the people. India is committed to achieve the goal of 'Health for All By 2000 AD' and the National Health Policy adopted by the Parliament in 1983 gives clear cut guidelines for undertaking developmental activities in the health and health related sectors and also the targets to be achieved for 'Health For All by 2000 A.D.'. The main instruments of action to achieve the goal of 'Health For All' is the implementation of the primary health care progress throughout the

country by the Central/State Health Ministries in coordination with other health related departments/Ministries, Voluntary Organisations, NGOs and community.

(b) The allocation during the 8th Five Year Plan has not yet been finalised.

(c) Yes, Sir. Apart from Central Government/State Government, recognised voluntary organisations/NGOs, local body hospitals, the Central Government Health Scheme has recognised many private hospitals for coronary by-pass surgery in different parts of the country.

(d) There are 116 full blown AIDS cases reported in the country upto 1st April, 1992.

(e) The Government of India under the National AIDS Control Programme is checking the outbreak of the disease through :—

A. *Surveillance*

(i) *Clinical Surveillance*

Due to increase in full blown case of AIDS in most of the States, the Government has laid emphasis on the clinical surveillance of HIV infection in the country.

(ii) *Sero-Surveillance*

There are 62 surveillance Centres in 23 States for detection of HIV infection.

B. *Safety of blood and blood product*

To prevent transfusion of HIV infection through blood and blood products, Zonal Blood Testing Centres have been established in different parts of the country. As of now 128 centres are functioning in 68 cities which collect about 70-80% of blood handled in the country. All the blood banks have been linked to these Zonal blood testing centres.

C. *Health Education & Information*

AIDS infection is not purely a medical problem. Emphasis is being given to social and behavioural aspects of control. The Government of India prepares and disseminates various health education materials in consultation with State Government to create awareness among general public.

(f) Yes, Sir.

Technology Mission in Immunisation

894. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Technology Mission on Immunisation has failed to expand the production of vaccines ;

(b) what is the status of the Indo-French Venture to manufacture a new generation of polio vaccines; and

(c) what is the total investment made on this project initiated by the Technology Mission in Immunisation ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. The Technology Mission on Immunization has expanded the production of vaccines and now the entire requirement of DPT, TT and Measles vaccines as well as about half the requirement of BCG Vaccine is supplied by indigenous manufacturers. In respect of the Oral Polio Vaccine also, most of the requirement is procured from indigenous manufacturers who are blending the imported monovalent bulk into finished form.

(b) The Indian Vaccines Corporation Limited (IVCOL), which is an Indo-French venture, will undertake manufacturing of measles vaccine, rabies vaccine and polio vaccine using vero cell technology. The Company has made considerable progress in establishment of the manufacturing unit at Gurgaon District (Haryana)